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06/02/2005 09:36 AM

To: Carl Blair/R4/USEPA/US@EPA  
cc: Brad Jackson/R4/USEPA/US@EPA  
bcc:  
Subject: FW: Opinion: Partnership aims to keep water contaminate free

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**From:** One of the Grimms [mailto:luada@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 02, 2005 7:42 AM  
**To:** Grimm, Eric; Bland, Susan A; Merchant, E Randy; Malaret, Nancy M; Grimm, Lu S; Garrett, Connie; Lightbourn, Alrena V; Waltman, Elise L; Tull, Elizabeth D; Linda Clemens; Brown, Cicely H; Donahue, Charles R; Johnson, David R; Sekerke, Joe; Becker, Alan J  
**Cc:** Dee Williamson; Bob Safay; Jennifer Freed; Shaun Crawford; Cheryl Browder; Hodges, Lindsay A  
**Subject:** Opinion: Partnership aims to keep water contaminate free

Fort Myers News-Press, June 2, 2005

## Opinion: Partnership aims to keep water contaminate free

- We believe the Greater Yellowstone Coalition will help to spotlight regulatory agencies' failures to hold the phosphate-mining industry accountable for accidents and impacts to wildlife and water. Those consequences need to be paid for as it will u

By ADAM CUMMINGS,  
GUEST OPINION

For many years and through many issues and threats, the Charlotte County Commission has stood strong to protect the Peace River. We do so for good reason.

First, the Peace River is a critical source of drinking water for our community. Equally as important, the river provides essential freshwater to Charlotte Harbor — the heart of our vibrant economy.

The most recent and persistent threat to these vital bodies of water is phosphate-strip mining. Since the mining doesn't occur in our county, it's hard to make the link between activity in Manatee or Desoto counties and impacts to our river, but they are real and lasting.

The health of the Peace River and Charlotte Harbor depends on the watershed. Impacts to the watershed result in impacts to drinking water supplies and our economic well-being.



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